

## NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,  
PROPRIETOR.Letters and packages should be properly  
sealed.

Volume XXXVII.....No. 120

## AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth street—  
ARTISTS.ST. JAMES THEATRE, Twenty-eighth street and  
Broadway—MacVoy's New Hippodrome.BOWERY THEATRE, BOWERY—SEARCHING THE  
DARF—SOLON SINGLES.OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway—The Ballets  
FOLIES OF HENRI DUPRE.BOOTH'S THEATRE, Twenty-third street, corner Sixth  
av.—The Icosi Chess-Katherine and Pictorial.WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 13th street—  
LORDS' ABSTRACT.ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Fourteenth street—ITALIAN  
OPERA—LA TRAVIATA—LOLA OF LAMMERMOOR, &c.THEATRE COMIQUE, 34 Broadway—Comic Vocal  
LITERARY ACTS, &c.—WORKING GIRLS OF NEW YORK.UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Fourteenth street and Broad-  
way—THE YOUNG FATHER.LINA EDWARDS THEATRE, 720 Broadway—THE POWER  
OF LOVE.GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of 5th av. and 23d st.—  
LALLA ROQUE.NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and  
Houston sts.—BLACK FRIDAY.STADT THEATRE, 45 and 47 Bowery—GERMAN OPERA—  
LA JUTE.BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Montague street—  
ITALIAN OPERA—LA TRAVIATA.PARK THEATRE, opposite City Hall, Brooklyn—  
PUNK.WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner 33d st.—Per-  
formances afternoon and evening.—LION.CHICKERING HALL, 11 East Fourteenth st.—GRAND  
CONCERT.MRS. F. R. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE—  
THREE ACTS AND OPERA.TONTI PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 20 Bowery—  
MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT, BURGUNDY, &c.SAN FRANCISCO HALL, 585 Broadway—VARIETY PER-  
FORMANCES.PAVILION, No. 638 Broadway, near Fourth st.—GRAND  
CONCERT.NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway—  
SCIENCE AND ART.DR. KATH'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, No. 745 Broad-  
way—SCIENCE AND ART.

## TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Monday, April 29, 1872.

## CONTENTS OF TO-DAY'S HERALD.

- PAGE.
- 1—Advertisements.
  - 2—Advertisements.
  - 3—The Liberal Republican Convention at Cincinnati—The Latest Opinions and Speculations—Views of Senator Sumner—Political Particulars in Louisiana and Michigan—Notes About the Convention.
  - 4—Religious: A Sunny Sabbath: The Story of Soul Salvation: Boys' Camp: A Day at the Suburban Churches: Father Gavazzi on Evangelization in Rome: Life as a Conflict, by Henry Ward Beecher: Lukewarm Catholics Warned by Father Beaudouin: Father Kane Relates an Old Tale: Dr. Chapin Celebrates His Sixty-fourth Anniversary: Confirmation Services at the Church of St. Alphonsus—Study the HERALD Sermons.
  - 5—The Florida Emancipation: Governor Reed's Impeachment and Boy's Camp: A Day at the Suburban Churches: Father Gavazzi on Evangelization in Rome: Life as a Conflict, by Henry Ward Beecher: Lukewarm Catholics Warned by Father Beaudouin: Father Kane Relates an Old Tale: Dr. Chapin Celebrates His Sixty-fourth Anniversary: Confirmation Services at the Church of St. Alphonsus—Study the HERALD Sermons.
  - 6—Editorials—Leading Article: "A New Departure for General Grant—The True Answer to the Cincinnati Movement"—Amusement Announcements.
  - 7—Editorials, continued: From Sixth Page—Progress of the Revolution in Spain—The eruption of Vesuvius—News from England, France, Germany, Turkey—Miscellaneous Telegrams—Business Notices.
  - 8—General News—Stokes and Black Friday—Down the Bay—Advertisements.
  - 9—Advertisements.
  - 10—The British Counter Case: Specific Features as Presented to the Geneva Tribunal—Shipping News—Advertisements.
  - 11—Advertisements.
  - 12—Advertisements.

**THE BRITISH COUNTER CASE.**—By the City of London, which arrived here last night, we received the British counter case as presented to the Geneva Tribunal of Arbitration, and which will be found on another page of this morning's issue.

**THE CHEROKEE MASSACRE.**—The details of this terrible affair seem to implicate the United States Marshals in being the originators of it and to blame for its bloody consequences. The authorities at Washington should institute a rigid scrutiny into the whole matter.

**THE INTERNATIONAL IN FRANCE.**—President Thiers has evidently made up his mind to give the International no quarter. Driven from Spain, some of them have sought shelter in France. But the eye of the government was upon them; and large numbers of the members of the society have been arrested in the city of Lyons.

**A HINT TO THE MISSOURI OFFICIALS.**—Suppose the head officials of the State of Missouri suspend President-making for a little while and try their hands at suppressing the horrible lawlessness that exists in the western part of the State. The recent bloody disturbances there may be a nut for the Cincinnati Convention to crack next Wednesday, with Gratz Brown for the cracker.

**VERY COOL.**—Orton, the claimant of the Tichborne estate, who has been liberated on bail, thanks the British public for their former subscriptions on his behalf, and coolly asks for four thousand pounds more to enable him to continue the contest for the possession of the property. Nothing like impudence. Here is a fellow who has ruined a splendid estate and virtually robbed thousands who trusted him, and who, after a trial of unparalleled length, has been adjudged an impostor, yet having the hardihood to call on the whole British people to come to his aid. Whatever be the defects of Orton's character he is certainly not wanting in audacity.

**THE PRUSSIAN ARTISAN COMBINATION,** which is struggling for the attainment of an exact regulation of the hours of work and the rate of wages for labor, bids fair to inaugurate a troublesome crisis between the interests of handicraft industry and capital in Berlin. The masters of three leading sources of employment—masons, carpenters and builders—have joined in the lock-out movement against the men. Thousands of operatives have been thrown out of employment in consequence. Troubles have ensued in the streets. The discharged workmen have issued a united appeal to the people at large for support. They discontinue the use of force and of threats to prevent others from working.

## A New Departure for General Grant—The True Answer to the Cincinnati Movement.

While there is nothing in this Cincinnati movement that surprises us or in any way causes anxiety, so far as the success of General Grant is concerned, we see the necessity for wisdom and caution on the part of the administration. One of the inconveniences of our form of government is the absence of flexibility. The people express their will every four years. That over the Executive is as powerful as a monarchy. In fact, considering the patronage wielded by the Executive, the practical irresponsibility of the Chief Magistrate, except to a Senate which may refuse to confirm appointments, and the growing power of the government, in business as well as political affairs, there is a rigidity and power in the Presidential office which are not surpassed by any of the monarchies of the Old World. The process of impeachment is so cumbersome that except in cases of flagrant wrong and violation of law it is powerless. The attempt to impeach Mr. Johnson demonstrated one thing—that there could be no removal of a President for political reasons. In Mr. Johnson's case many reasons of a political nature existed. The party in power was largely in power, and the President had made war upon it. Had he been the Prime Minister of a government like the English he would have been driven out of power by a vote of want of confidence. Such a vote, however, implied no dishonor. The process of impeachment, on the contrary, suppressed crime, and carried with it not merely removal from office, but removal under circumstances that made it a penalty like imprisonment or exile.

As we have said, no Senate will ever treat impeachment as a political punishment; so when a President drifts away from his party or from public opinion, he remains in power until the end of his term. Whenever we have seen an antagonism between President and Congress we have had scandals and weak administration and corruption and a lowering of the public virtue. We saw this in the time of Buchanan, and conspicuously under Johnson. Public opinion acts periodically, and then is silent, and has no more power over the President than the public opinion of Russia over the Czar. There is no way of reaching the administration, and consequently we have a clumsy government, and are easily mismanaged. We saw the English Ministry sign the Johnson-Stanley treaty at a time when everybody felt that it would never be ratified, when the President who made it had no influence or power; and we remember the surprise of the Old World at the decisive vote which rejected the former convention. It is a misfortune, we think, there should be these times of dissension and irresponsibility. General Grant expressed his own contempt and dislike for them when he said that he would never have a policy to enforce that was in opposition to the manifestly expressed will of the people. We remember the pleasure this assurance gave us, for we were trembling under our Johnson experiments with the policy and the constitution. But, really there was little genuine reform in this avowal when we came to analyze it. A President must judge himself as to what constitutes the will of the people. No doubt Mr. Johnson thought that every proclamation and veto which he hurled at Congress was in answer to the will of the people. We know how badly he was deceived; but the deception under which he labored may fall upon any eager, narrow-minded, zealous Chief Magistrate. There are no tyrants so implacable as those who persecute the heretics for the glory of God and the welfare of the Church, and we have had no President who offended the solemn sense of the people as wantonly as Andrew Johnson when he defended the constitution of the United States, an instrument which he worshipped with maidenly devotion, and whose integrity he believed to be in peril.

General Grant's famous declaration was a step towards what might be called a flexible government. When he said he would have no policy not agreeable to the people he meant to make his government as responsible to Congress as Mr. Gladstone and his government are responsible to the House of Commons. He meant this or nothing at all, and he is not a man given to idle speech. More than all, he showed what he meant in the St. Domingo business. Whatever may be said for or against that measure it was certainly, as handled by the President, an unpopular scheme. If Mr. Gladstone had presented it to the House of Commons under circumstances similar to those under which the President presented it to Congress, Parliament would have driven him out of the Ministry. This the President saw, and he frankly withdrew the measure from Congress as an administrative project. Mr. Lincoln did the same when in the early part of the war it was seen that Congress had no confidence in the War Office. He yielded to the will of the people, and appointed a Secretary of War who possessed the country's confidence. Lincoln, as well as Grant, recognized therefore the want of facility and flexibility of the government, and in so doing endeavored himself, like Grant, to the people. Johnson, on the other hand, clung to the prerogatives of his office—to every right and immunity guaranteed by the constitution, and his administration went to pieces, while he himself narrowly escaped punishment and expulsion from office.

While we see no way to practically engraft the wise and salutary custom of the English upon our laws, we cannot too highly commend the willingness of Lincoln and Grant to shape their administrations in harmony with public opinion. The time has come for President Grant to once more redeem his pledge, to do now what he did in the St. Domingo business. We see many degrading and dishonorable features in this whole Cincinnati movement. There was never a political enterprise so selfish, so unjust, so utterly reprehensible and mean. We despise many of the men who lead it, and regard it at the best as a clumsy intrigue. But behind this movement there is a public opinion striving for expression, which the President and his friends should consider. It is as strong as the public opinion which doomed St. Domingo. Like St. Domingo, its objection to the administration is upon a question of foreign policy. The country holds Hamilton Fish in high honor as a man of experience, integrity and patriotism. But it does not feel that his administration of foreign affairs has been American. It did not like St. Domingo. It has always felt angry and mortified over our course towards the Cubans, our

travelling to Spain, our failure to insist upon humanity and kindness towards the Cuban patriots. It fears that in the war between France and Germany we were careless of our neutral duties. It looks with impatience and anger upon the state of war which helpless and insubordinate Mexico has forced upon America. It cannot but think that, had we dealt resolutely with Mexico, we might have freed that people from the rule of the bandits and given the States of the republic as good a government as was given to Texas and California. It is afraid that the principle of the Monroe doctrine, so precious and sacred in our diplomatic traditions, has been wantonly violated. More than all, it looks with grief upon our relations with England. The treaty was a surprise, the presentation of the case not what it should have been; and it believes, whether justly or unjustly, that Mr. Fish, yielding to the menaces of Gladstone and the blandishments of the lobby of amateur statesmen who now swarm around Washington, means to make a settlement which will sacrifice the honor of the country. We do not consider now how true or false these impressions are. We do not say one word of unkindness or discourtesy to the venerable and distinguished Secretary of State. But we cannot help seeing, to use an English phrase, that he has "lost the confidence of the country."

As we have shown again and again, General Grant's foreign policy is the weakest part of his canvass for re-election. We have admonished him on many occasions, and in the spirit of the sincerest loyalty and kindness, of the necessity of giving strength to his administration and to his friends in the canvass by changing his foreign policy. Nor can this be done without changing his Secretary of State. Mr. Fish should recognize the situation as the House of Commons would recognize it were the House of Commons to pass a resolution similar to that about to be offered by Earl Russell in the House of Lords. Let General Grant ask Mr. Fish to retire from the Cabinet and go to England. The English mission was thrown away upon General Schenck, and some of his proceedings in London have injured the President. A Minister so insensible to propriety as to become an agent for undeveloped silver mines should be permitted to retire from the service and give his whole time to their development and to securing the English shareholders the worth of their money. Mr. Fish would be received with high honor in England. He would reflect credit upon the country and himself. For Secretary of State we want a fresh, bright, independent statesman, who stands well with the country, well with the President and well with the republican party. No man fills these conditions so admirably as Elihu B. Washburne, our Minister to France. The country knows his record—how true he was to freedom and union; how loyal he was to Grant when his fame was budding and friends were few; how brave and untiring he was as our Minister in France during the dark days of the siege and the bloody days of the Commune. His record as Minister was an honor to the American name, and gave him such a hold upon the affections of the people that he would to-day, as a republican candidate for the Presidency, poll more votes than any man that could be named except General Grant himself. Mr. Washburne's withdrawal from the Cabinet was one of the mistakes of the administration. Now is the time to retrieve it and to show our appreciation of Mr. Washburne's gallantry, ability and patriotism by calling him home and making him Secretary of State.

This will be the true answer to the Cincinnati movement. Mr. Washburne was the general who marshalled the forces of the republican party to victory in 1863. We want him back again to command its columns. This canvass will be the severest ever known. General Grant cannot miss a point nor take anything for granted, nor allow his gentleness of nature and his partiality for the amiable and winning men around him to weaken his canvass or add to the burdens that must be borne by his friends. Other changes may be necessary in the Cabinet and elsewhere. We do not designate them now. Let Mr. Washburne be appointed Premier, and, like the Premier in England, let him indicate who should serve with him. We can then begin the canvass with the brightest and most inspiring auguries of success; and General Grant will show, as he has so often shown before, that he has no policy to enforce in opposition to the wishes of the people.

## The Postal Telegraph Question in Congress.

Senator Ramsey made a very important and valuable statement in the Senate on Saturday in explanation of the Postal Telegraph bill, which he reported favorably from the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads. Mr. Ramsey's remarks were published in the HERALD yesterday. He commenced by saying that the rates under the present telegraph system are high and irregular, and that the facilities for using it, except in large cities, are limited, while the business is unregulated by any uniform or competent law. After showing that the ownership and control of the telegraph are centralized in the hands of one man, he states the object of the bill to be to reduce and simplify the rates, to increase the facilities, regulate the business by law, to prevent the centralization of power so dangerous to the interests of the people, and to restrain and regulate the use of the telegraph, so that it can be wielded neither by an individual, however wealthy and great, by a corporation, or by the Executive to the detriment of the people. The bill recognizes the telegraph as an instrumentality for the exchange of correspondence, since a telegram differs from a letter only in the method of its transmission. It provides for the establishment of postal telegraph offices at post offices. It fixes uniform rates for all distances. The reduction of the rates charged by the present system will be thirty-three to one-third per cent for distances under two hundred and fifty miles, thirty-eight per cent for distances between two hundred and fifty and five hundred miles, and so on, up to eighty per cent, according to distance. The bill provides also for telegraphic money orders. The rates for the press for "specials" are to be about half the present charges, and every paper will have a right to establish a private wire leading directly from the office of its correspondents to the office of the paper, without the possibility of its news messages being inspected. There are some other excel-

lent provisions in the bill which may be seen by reference to our issue of yesterday. There is one thing, however, which will hardly meet with the approval of the public, and which has the appearance of being a job. That is the proposal to turn over all this business to a company. The Postmaster General is authorized to contract with the Postal Telegraph Company for the transmission of telegrams for the period of ten years. Why assign this business to a private company? Why cannot the government undertake it and use the post offices, with whatever additional labor may be necessary, to carry it out? This is a matter requiring serious consideration, and we hope Congress will discuss it freely. If the postal telegraph would be profitable enough for a company to undertake the business a greater profit ought to accrue to the government with the facilities it would possess in the use of the Post Office organization, and then there would be a better chance of reducing the rates still more than now proposed. We want the postal telegraph, but we want it established on the best plan and in the hands of the government.

## The Spanish Insurrection Extending Enormously—Difficulty of Establishing a Permanent Government.

Spain is in much the same condition as Vesuvius. From Madrid, by way of London, we have special telegram advices which report that the Spanish Carlist insurrection against the throne of Amadeus is extending enormously in the kingdom, and that the aid of the soldiers of the regular army is demanded from His Majesty's Ministry by the loyalist population everywhere, and almost simultaneously. Many skirmishes have occurred between the insurgents and the regiments of the line. The Carlist army numbers fifteen thousand men. Its more active operations are conducted on a line about twenty miles from the French frontier. The capital of the Province of Navarre is menaced, and, according to the very latest advices, the insurrection is assuming the proportion of a revolution. The source of the war trouble appears to be as deep seated and irrepressible as the fires of the old volcano on the Bay of Naples. There the elements of the past and present conflict with more intensity than elsewhere in Europe, and the consequence is frequent and periodical convulsions and revolutions. The young King, Amadeus, was hardly seated on his throne before factions began to work to depose him. Though but a short time monarch of Spain his reign has been full of trouble. Now there is a Carlist insurrection, which calls for energetic efforts from the government to combat it. The greatest marshals and ablest men in Spain—as, for example, Marshals Serrano and Concha—and it necessary to buckle on their armor and to enter the field in defence of Amadeus. Serrano, it is said, will be appointed general-in-chief against the insurrectionists, and Concha will have a high command. Judging from this reported action of the government and the facts which we have published within the last few days and what we print to-day about the revolutionary movements in the peninsula, there is reason to believe the new dynasty is surrounded by danger.

In connection with this fresh revolutionary movement and uncertain situation of King Amadeus it will be interesting to recall to mind a letter, published in the HERALD March 7, 1871, signed Carlota, Empress of Mexico, and purporting to have been written by that unfortunate lady. It was addressed to Maria Victoria, the wife and queen of Amadeus, and depicted the perils, almost in prophetic language, which the young King and his consort might expect. It was dated from the city of Mexico, and, though evidently not written by poor Carlota, was touchingly eloquent and full of warning. Some ascribed it to Castelar, the famous Spanish orator, and it is not unlike the brilliant effusions of that orator; while others said it was from the pen of a distinguished Mexican. Whoever wrote it knew Spain and the Spanish people well. In this letter Carlota is made to say to her crowned sister, "I write to you to-day to predict that the day may come when we shall both be unfortunate. I was also a queen, Maria Victoria; I also smiled and was deceived." Then the desolate Empress is supposed to use the following language: "If you leave Italy; if you pass through the Gulf of Genoa—through the gulf of a noble city—you can say, when I return across your waters you will see me clothed in black." If you consent to your husband's going, if a crown fascinates him, if that serpent attracts him, prepare to receive the following words:—Maria, all is ended! O, child of my heart, do not leave Turin, do not leave Florence, do not leave Rome, do not leave your country. See that they do not deceive you as they did me." True enough may it be said of such revolutionary countries as Spain and Mexico, that uneasy is the head that wears a crown. While Amadeus and Maria Victoria may escape the sad fate of Maximilian and Carlota, their crown appears to hang upon almost as slender a thread.

It is not from the Carlist rising alone that Amadeus' throne is in danger. The government is strong enough, perhaps, to suppress that if there were no other elements of revolution in Spain. The republicans, who have considerable strength in the cities, and are both active and vigorous, the friends of Montpensier and the young Prince of Asturias, with all the other opposition factions, have a common object in view in the deposition of Amadeus. He being out of the way each faction would have a chance of coming into power. That, at least, is the hope of the different factions, and hence the first object is to overthrow the existing government. Amadeus was accepted by the conservative classes as a sort of compromise, and to avert the political chaos that threatened Spain from intestine war, and not because a majority of the Spanish people really preferred a foreigner to rule over them. This young and inexperienced foreign Prince appeared to be a necessity for the time to bridge over the difficulties which Spain was involved. It was under the same political exigencies that a Hohenzollern was invited to ascend the throne of Spain. Any other secession of monarchy either to Amadeus or the Hohenzollern. It is, consequently, merely a dynasty or government of expedience, necessity, and has no foundation in national conquest, great renown or high executive ability. Dread of what might follow the deposition of Amadeus may rally conservative strength enough to overcome the present insurrection; the elements of dis-

cord would remain, and the end of the young King's reign would be, probably, only temporarily deferred.

Under this state of things it is uncertain what may be the immediate result of the Carlist movement, how long Amadeus may remain on the throne, or what party may gain the ascendancy in the event of the insurrection ultimately succeeding. Don Carlos represents the reaction in Spain, as the Count de Chambord does in France. Though his views may be modified by the liberal spirit of the age, and he might not think of falling back to the absolute monarchial ideas of the past, he stands upon the principle of divine right, as the old Bourbons of France do. We cannot believe it possible that Spain will return to this exploded dogma of the Middle Ages, though she might prefer a native prince and one of the race of her ancient monarchs to a foreigner. The aristocracy and conservative classes might accept Don Carlos rather than a republic or the chances of prolonged revolution. But can they stem the tide of democratic opinions, which are based upon the right of choosing a ruler and self-government, and which naturally lead to republicanism? Spain has felt the impulse of modern liberal ideas, which the press, telegraph and steam power are conveying to all countries. Though the Peninsula is more isolated than the central portions of Europe from this mighty influence of modern development and progress, and though the masses of Spanish people, particularly in the rural districts, are more wedded to their old prejudices or views than are the people of some other European countries, Spain is moving with the times. The Spaniards are impressed quickly, have generous impulses and are apt to act promptly. Hence they make sometimes important political movements before being well prepared for the change or the country is ripe for it. In the cities—the centres of advanced thought—and among the educated classes there are many republicans. Through their influence, and as the consequence of corrupt and extravagant monarchial government, the republic was proclaimed. But the reaction proved too powerful for it. The republican party is still too weak, probably, to establish a government. Still, every failure of monarchial rule brings Spain nearer to democratic self-government. The country may have to pass through a severe and bloody ordeal, or more than one—and this appears to be the price of liberty in Europe—but it cannot go back to the dark Ages, it cannot resist the influences of modern thought and civilization, it must advance with the progress of the times.

It appears to be the destiny of Spain to keep Europe in a state of convulsion. That was the position of France; but she has worked out the problem of conflict between the past and present further than any other of the Continental nations of Europe, and her late misfortunes keep her under restraint. The revolutionary fires are not extinguished in France, however, and from her central position in Europe and the activity of the French mind any great movement there must be felt all over the Continent. The feudal past, with its exclusiveness and bigotry, has been pretty well worked out of the volcano of French revolution. It is burning still in Spain. And it is this which makes the Peninsula subject to convulsions that disturb the nations of Europe. There the fiery democrat and intense republican come directly in conflict with the haughty cavalier and proud aristocrat, and with the bigotry of a mediæval age. Spain was the proximate cause of the terrible Franco-German war, which dethroned Napoleon and humiliated France so much. She has been the cause of other wars, revolutions and great changes, and will continue to be, probably, till she is purged of the anomalies in her political and social condition and settles down to a regular and liberal form of government. How long it may take or what troubles Spain may have to pass through before she reaches that end no one can know. The present Carlist insurrection is but one of the phases of her revolutionary condition. The dethronement of Queen Isabella was another phase. The candidature of Prince Hohenzollern and the elevation of Amadeus to the throne were also phases. While it is painful to contemplate this continued and irrepressible revolution it seems to be the only way in which the deep-seated evils of that country can be cured. The tendency everywhere in Europe has been from absolutism and divine right of kingly government to constitutional monarchy, and now the struggle is for democracy, political equality and elective rulers. It is a struggle between the dark and repressive past and the enlightened, progressive present. King Amadeus, of Spain, or whoever else throws himself into the arena of conflict, must take the consequences, whatever they may be. Only those who comprehend the elements and nature of the political and social forces in combat and can use them skilfully may hope to retain power. The world is getting beyond being governed by sentiment or fiction, and is becoming terribly in earnest, practical and progressive.

## Is the Story About Captain Hall's Expedition a Hoax?

The long story relating the accident to the steamer *Polaris*, of Captain Hall's expedition, it would seem, bears marks of being wholly spurious. A contemporary, in its Thursday's issue, gave a long account, with all the details of the alleged disaster to the steamer, but they do not bear scrutiny. It was not the intention of Captain Hall to be at sea in the mid-winter months, when the Arctic midnight reigns supreme and darkness covers the circum-polar regions for six months. But according to the story now brought he was at sea in January and February, and states "through the whole month of January very little ice was seen," but he encountered a little on the "1st of February," and his vessel sprung a leak on the "8th of February." The improbability of all this news is further increased by the fact that the scene of the accident is in the midst of the great territorial polar and ice-bearing current, which in Arctic midnight the commander of the *Polaris* would avoid. The injured vessel is said to have made Disco Island. But Captain Hall, as the report of the Secretary of the Navy shows, left Disco at two P. M. August 17, and if the season was so extraordinarily open, as the rumor says Captain Hall found it, it seems positively certain he would have passed Cape Dudley Digges before February. This latter cape is fully four hundred miles north of Disco, and it was apparently the hope of the Navy Department that the *Polaris* would have made higher latitude than this

during the past season, for the Secretary of the Navy, in his written instructions to Captain Hall, ordered:—"You will transmit to this department, as often as opportunity offers, reports of your progress and results of your search, detailing the route of your proposed advance. To keep the government as well informed as possible of your progress, you will, after passing Cape Dudley Digges, throw overboard daily a bottle containing a paper stating date, position and such other facts as you may deem interesting." It seems incredible that Captain Hall, who arrived at Disco twenty days before the author of the new report sailed thence, should not have sent some tidings to the Secretary, whose orders are imperative to spare no opportunity of communication with the department. The reputed fears of Captain Hall that he would find his way to the Pole, resisted by "a new and formidable race of beings"—such, perhaps, as the ancient Britons, who resisted Julius Caesar's invasion—as also the statement, that he found "plants in the ice indigenous to Southern climates," and found a whale with a harpoon stuck in him "in the South Pacific," to say the least, are not very creditable to the intelligence of Captain Hall. In fact, the whole story, however circumstantial it may appear, will hardly be accepted by intelligent and thinking men, and has a very suspicious appearance.

## The Great Fire Cone of the Mediterranean—The Causes of Its Volcanic Belchings.

Our telegrams to-day give additional accounts of the volcanic fires burning in the breast of Vesuvius. The great cone of fire has evidently been putting forth its deepest and grandest eruptive energies and thrown off again its smiling mask. From time immemorial it has been observed that when either Etna or Vesuvius has enjoyed a long period of repose the other volcano has erupted seriously and upon a grand scale.

There is scarcely a spot on the globe more full of interest than Vesuvius, not excepting the Peak of Teneriffe, whose flames illumined the path of Christopher Columbus on his way to the New World. Around the crater of the now blazing Italian pyramid the classic Spartacus and his band of gladiators encamped. It was the subject of historic record for Strabo and Diodorus Siculus, who mention its earliest activities. Its greatest outburst was in 79, when the illustrious Pliny perished in its lava, and the cities of Herculaneum and Pompeii were buried in its ashes. For 267 years, during which Etna, its sympathetic neighbor, was scarcely ever quiet, the mountain was continuously at rest; but in 1682, in 1696, and again in 1861 its slumbers were disturbed by the subterranean forces, but not to the extent by which they now seem to be so violently broken up.

From earliest childhood, as Humboldt remarks, we have been accustomed to contrast the mobility of the liquid sea with the immobility of the earth's solid crust. But when the latter illusion is dispelled man is suddenly overwhelmed with the sense of the mysterious, and is forced to inquire into the cause of such terrific phenomena as those now displayed in Italy. Of the only two theories yet offered in explanation of these phenomena that long advocated by the HERALD appears now to be confirmed. Some physicists have strenuously denied the existence in our planet of an internal "sea of fire," and substituted therefor in theory numerous small and disconnected volcanic lakes, or local furnaces, capable, as they suppose, of furnishing material for the largest eruptions. This hypothesis is hardly tenable if we reflect on the immense cyclopean forces manifested in Plutonic action. The cities of Stabia, Herculaneum and Pompeii, submerged to the depth of one hundred feet by the ashes of Vesuvius, are ocular demonstrations of the vast masses ejected from the crater vent, requiring almost incalculable force to discharge them. The volcano of Sangay in Ecuador, in ceaseless commotion since 1728, has buried the surrounding country to a depth of four hundred feet, and a French geologist has recently shown that the volcano of Bourbon has thrown out no less than three hundred thousand tons of volcanic ashes. Such facts, if alone, would lead us to reject the idea that these lofty fire domes are mere local phenomena, "each one springing from its own comparatively small reservoir of molten matter." It is acknowledged by all geologists that, no matter how far distant volcanoes may be from each other, their fiery products are altogether identical in their general, mineral and chemical constitution, and have no local peculiarities, and the very odors they emit are nearly the same wherever perceived. It seems clear that the enormous furnace heat which characterizes the ejected lava which has been known to remain hot for ages after eruption could not rage in any superficial or local reservoir of molten matter without making itself felt in the most sensible manner. Added to these considerations is the well known fact that volcanic rocks are encountered in every part and latitude of the globe, frequently continuous over vast areas of country, and everywhere preserving the same character. The only sound inference is that the phenomena so extended and continuous with the terrestrial surface are due to a Plutonic ocean everywhere beneath man's feet.

If anything were needed to certify this conclusion it is found in the astonishing and long observed connection between the earthquakes and the volcano. The quiverings and crumbling of the solid crust, and the numerous European shocks which commenced A. D. 63, and inspired the early Christians with the hope of the return of Christ and the millennial consummation of all things, were but the efforts of Vesuvius and her sister dames in the Mediterranean to relieve themselves of the internal pressure, and had their brilliant and awful catastrophe in the great eruption of 79. The same shocks in Mexico preceded, in 1750, the upheaval, in a single night, of the lofty volcano of Jorullo. The earthquake in Chile, in 1834, ended in the outbreak of Osorno and three other Andean volcanoes; while, in 1868, the convulsion of the Peruvian coast received its quietus in the outburst of Islnaga—at last accounts still smoking. In what has been said we have not alluded to the co-operative action of great atmospheric and meteorologic causes in the production of earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. When we remember that the aerial ocean presses on every square mile of our globe with a weight of over a million tons, and that the passage across a volcanic district of a wave of air, in which the